OLD-WORLD ITEMS.

Terms On Which Japan is to Treat for Peace.

THE ARMENIAN INQUIRY.

British Dissatisfaction With the Personnel of the Commission—Parliamentary Points—Gladstone Well.

(Special cable letter.)

LONDON, December 29.—The Japanese Government has made no response to the fresh suggestions from the British Government that the terms upon which Japan is willing to treat for peace with China ought to be communicated to the Powers. On the contrary, the Japanese have persisted in maintaining a policy of reticence. The British Minister at Tokio has been unable to get the slightest scrap of official information upon the subject of the conditions for which Japan will contend, and the Japanese Embassy in London is equally secretive. The latter, it is true, has some knowledge of the situation, but it is partly of a negative and partly of a positive character.

The embassy is free, however, in discrediting the recent cablegrams attributing to Japan the design of forcing an alliance with China against the European Powers. The leading principle of the peace negotiations between the two Eastern empires, as far as Japan is concerned, will be a total abstention from any demand which would give China an excuse to ask for European intervention.

Japan, therefore, will not stipulate for any territorial or commercial acquisitions in which the other Powers are interested. Formosa will be taken by Japan as part of a pledge for the war indemnity, and certain Chinese ports that are not treaty ports will be held as a pledge for the remainder of the indemnity, together with such a lien upon the Chinese customs-revenue as will not prejudice that revenue, whether mortgaged or not.

In regard to Korea, it is probable that Japan will control that country.

ARMENIA.

As the great body of the members of the Liberal party are resolved that there shall be some practical intervention in Armenia, and have relied upon the government to carry out their plans, there is great surprise among them at finding that the foreign commission of inquiry which is going to Armenia is composed only of dragomans. Russia's delegate, M. Maior, has been a dragoman attached to the Russian Embassy at Constantinople; M. Vibert, the French delegate, is an interpreter in the employ of the French consulate at the Turkish capital, and England's delegate, Mr. Shapley, is a vice-consul to Turkey. The personnel of the commission, as thus described, gives no security, says the "Speaker," that there will be a satisfactory inquiry, especially since the American delegate has been refused permission to make an independent investigation.

"There is little hope," continues the "Speaker," "of getting at the truth, even if the dragomans should be allowed, as they will not be, to take an active part in the investigation. England ought to come to some agreement with Russia without delay, to the end of taking action together, with or without the co-operation of the Powers, and they should act at once. A word from England would lead to a revolution in Crete and Macedonia, and even in Constantinople.

The "Speaker" gives expression to the popular feeling on the subject, which has been intensified by the ringing speech delivered to the Armenian deputation by Mr. Gladstone at Hawarden to-day.

PARLIAMENTARY.

Lord Rosebery has summoned a meeting of the Cabinet on January 14th, and has accompanied his summons with a request that the ministers make arrangements to remain in London thereafter. The Conservative whips have already intimated to the Tory members of the House of Commons who are now abroad that they should not fail to be present at the opening of the next session. The leaders on both sides recognize the fact that the stress of the session will at that time be greatest. If the government survives the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, they may tide over the session, but otherwise they will be in constant danger of falling.

The danger of the Redmondite faction of the Irish party's throwing its votes to the Conservatives has lessened considerably under the influence of the extension of the government's pro-Irish policy. The McCarthyite leaders have received explicit ministerial assurances that the principles of home rule will be reaffirmed at the coming session of the party congress, and that it will be made the first plank in the party platform. Besides, Mr. Morley's land bill in the interest of tenants and the special measures which have been taken to avert famine in Ireland have aroused a feeling of warm approval in Ireland. The government has already made advances of money without interest to local boards for the purpose of securing seed-potatoes, and the boards are also authorized to make advances, to be paid in two annual instalments.

Mr. Joseph Redmond will return from his voyage to Cape Colony next week, at which time the period of political activity will begin.

Lord Sligo has grouped his tenants who pay less than £4 for their holdings as tenants in common, and in this way he is enabled to skin even the £1 holders out of the poor rates.

The Marquis of Sligo draws £20,000 a year from his estates in Ireland, and from this exposure it is easy to see how he does it.

MR. GLADSTONE "PEART."

Mr. A. J. C. Donald, Member of Parliament for East Cork, who has been paying a visit to Mr. Gladstone, at Hawarden, describes the ex-Premier's step as elastic and his spirits as buoyant. His eyes have regained all of their old lustre, and in conversation with Mr. Donald he frequently indulged in hearty laughter.

Mr. Gladstone conversed largely upon Irish topics, and his interest in the cause seemed as keen as ever. He spoke of the Home-Rule party as one composed of men of ability and honor. "Surely," says the Freeman's Journal, commenting upon Mr. Donald's interview with Mr. Gladstone, "we have the right to hope that again the veteran's voice will thrill the hearts of the people by speaking in favor of home rule."

There is excellent authority for the statement that the Colonial Office supports the Canadian view of the copyright question, the Manitoba Government closing its London connections permanently to-day.

The proposed journey of Cardinal Vaughan to Rome has been delayed by a severe attack of bronchitis, with which the Prelate has been affected. It is now stated that if he is sufficiently recovered he will start on January 10th.

In the event of the Anti-Gambling League's winning the suit which it is prosecuting against the stewards of the Jockey Club, an appeal will be carried by the stewards to the Court of Quarter Sessions, of which Lord Rendlesham, the junior steward of the Jockey Club, is chairman. If the appeal is made it is certain to be sustained by the court.

MR. GLADSTONE'S BIRTHDAY.

Many Congratulatory Messages—Testimonial from Armenians.

LONDON, December 29.—Mr. Gladstone celebrated his 85th birthday to-day, and was the recipient of hundreds of letters and telegrams of congratulation and parcels containing birthday gifts. Mr. Gladstone was in remarkably good health and spirits, and, despite stormy weather, drove through the village of Hawarden to the church, where he met a deputation of Armenian Christians from Paris and London.

On behalf of Mr. Gladstone the deputation presented a silver chalice to the church. The chalice was presented to Rev. Stephen Gladstone, son of the ex-Premier, and rector of Hawarden church, in recognition of the interest his father has taken in the Armenian outrages. In reply to the presentation address the ex-Premier expressed his sympathy with the sufferings of the Armenian Christians.

The deputation took luncheon with Mr. Gladstone at Hawarden Castle.

The Prince of Wales and Lord Aberdeen are among those who telegraphed their congratulations to Mr. Gladstone.

Mr. Gladstone, in his reply to the deputation's address, said that it was not their duty to assume that all the allegations of outrage were true, but rather to wait the result of the inquiry which had been invoked. However, he said, the published reports pointed strongly to the conclusion that the outrages, sins, and abominations committed in 1876 in Bulgaria had been repeated in 1894 in Armenia. If this were true, it was time that there should be one general shout of execration against these deeds of wickedness from outraged humanity. If the facts were established it should be written in letters of iron upon the records of the world that a government which could be guilty of countenancing and covering up such atrocities was a disgrace to Mahomet, the prophet; a disgrace to civilization at large, and a disgrace to mankind.

Mr. Gladstone, continuing, said: "Don't let me be told that one nation has no authority over another. Every nation, aye, every human being, has authority in behalf of humanity."

He had been silent, he said, because he had full confidence that the government knew its duty. If the allegations made should prove to be true, it was time that the execration of humanity should force itself upon the ears of the Sultan of Turkey, and make him sensible of the madness of such a course as was being pursued.

Mr. Gladstone spoke for a quarter of an hour. He was remarkably deliberate in delivery, and vigorous in action and gesture, and was loudly cheered as he concluded his remarks.

Hohenlohe Going to Friedrichsruhe.

BERLIN, December 29.—The Chancellor, Prince Hohenlohe, returned to Berlin last evening, after passing a day or two with his eldest son in Bohemia. His plan to visit Prince Bismarck has been revived. He is arranging to go to Friedrichsruhe after the New-Year's reception at that palace. It was reported to-day that the Chancellor had already started for Friedrichsruhe.

Jap "Civilities" in China.

LONDON, December 29.—A dispatch to the Central News from Tokio says that with a view to maintaining discipline and pacifying the district of Liao-Tong, Field-Marshal Oyama has established a civil administration at Kinchow similar to that established at Antong by the commander of the first army. The administration at Kinchow has been in operation since December 15th.

The Gale Continues.

LONDON, December 29.—The gale in the Irish sea continues unabated. The schooner Erin has been towed to Holyhead, having dragged from her anchorage and lost her sails. A number of vessels in the harbor at Holyhead broke from their anchorages last night and were seriously damaged by coming into collision with one another.

Mrs. Astor's Body Embarked.

LIVERPOOL, December 29.—The body of Mrs. W. W. Astor was quietly placed on the steamer Aurania yesterday evening. Prior to the sailing of the Aurania at noon to-day the officials of the Cunard Line said that Mr. Astor was not on board. The passenger-list of the Aurania does not contain the name of Mr. Astor.

Lord Churchill's Condition.

LONDON, December 29.—Lord Randolph Churchill's return to consciousness has lessened his immediate danger. Otherwise the gravity of his condition is unaltered. At midnight his doctors reported that there had been no change since the last bulletin.

War Material for Brazil.

LONDON, December 29.—The Brazilian Government has ordered £1,000,000 worth of war material from the Armstrong Gun Company.

FOOD FOR NEBRASKA.

Ex-Governor Northen Wants to Send a Train-Load from Georgia.

AUGUSTA, GA., December 29.—Ex-Governor W. J. Northen telegraphs the Chronicle as follows:

"ATLANTA, GA., December 29.

"I appeal to the people of this State for contributions of food supplies and money for the destitute people in Nebraska. Three thousand families in that State are in an almost starving condition. The destitution is appalling. Through the generous aid of the Western Union Telegraph Company, free of cost, I have wired to the Mayor of every county town in this State asking for a thorough canvass of his county. Railways will deliver to me free from freight charges at Atlanta. This is a great charity. Georgia has a grand opportunity to recognize it. I want to send a train-load from this State. Train will leave Atlanta January 15th.

(Signed) "W. J. NORTHEN."

THE TRAIN IN ATLANTA.

ATLANTA, GA., December 29.—"Here's yer Chicago Herald—Exposition edition!" The "Dixie Hummer," which left Chicago at 2 o'clock this morning, made the fastest long-distance run in southern railway history, covering the 733 miles in 16 hours, 15 minutes, actual running time, or 16 hours, 57 minutes elapsed time. The average running time was 45 miles an hour.

The train was scheduled to reach Atlanta at 5:30 P. M. It came over the Chicago and Eastern Illinois, the Evansville and Terre Haute, the Louisville and Nashville, the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis, and the Western and Atlantic roads. The fastest running was between Chicago and the Ohio river, and Chattanooga and Atlanta.

On the train were Charles L. Stone, general passenger agent of the Chicago and Eastern Illinois road; Robert Ainsley, business manager of the Herald; Angus McNeill, an artist, and E. C. Bruffy, of the Atlanta Constitution.

CHEERING AND YELLING.

Upon arriving in Atlanta, the train was greeted by a cheering, yelling mob, which choked all the streets for blocks in every direction. Mayor Goodwyn, the City Council, and representative business-men and professional-men welcomed the party which stepped from the train and a band played "Dixie."

To-night, the railroad men and the Herald's representative were banqueted at the Aragon.

The record between Atlanta and Chicago has been lowered several hours, and to-night the Herald and the railroads are the toasts.

The object of the special run was to advertise the Cotton States and International Exposition.

JAMES G. FAIR NO MORE.

His Fortune Estimated at Forty Millions of Dollars.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., December 29.—Ex-Senator James G. Fair, the bonanza millionaire, died of asthma last night at the Lick House, this city. The cause of death was diabetes and Bright's disease.

Mr. Fair took to his bed last Monday, and has not been conscious for any considerable length of time since then. He had been failing for some time, and was fully aware of his critical condition.

His only son, Charles Lewis Fair, was present at his death.

He leaves a fortune estimated at $40,000,000, and by the terms of a holographic will, made some two months ago, this vast sum, it is stated, will be equally divided between his three surviving children—Mrs. Herman Oelrichs, of New York; Miss Virginia Fair, now staying with her sister in New York, and Charles L. Fair, of this city.

AN ASSOCIATED PRESS FAKE.

It Is Rejected With Scorn by a Member of the Organization.

SANDUSKY, O., December 29.—The Register, of this city, which is owned by I. F. Mack, a member of the Associated Press and for many years a member of the western organization, says editorially: "The managers of the Associated Press are sending to members a statement to the effect that twenty-five of the forty Southern Associated Press papers have abandoned that organization and the United Press, and have come into the Associated Press. There may be members of the Associated Press who will swallow that lie, but we are not one of them. Having kept close track of this fight, we have discovered the loss of two members from the Southern Associated Press and a corresponding gain to the Illinois association, and it is safe to say that for every dollar thus gained by the Illinois association it will pay two, if not three, as the cost of serving raw recruits."

Family Tragedy in Mississippi.

GREENVILLE, MISS., December 29.—At Wayside, on the Valley railroad, ten miles from here, W. G. Clowston shot and killed his father-in-law, Judge J. W. Scott, who snapped his pistol at Clowston, but it failed to fire. The shooting took place in the back room of Graham's store. Clowston came to Greenville this morning and surrendered. The tragedy is the result of a family quarrel. All are highly connected.

THE LAST OF LEXOW.

Final Day of the Hearing Full of Sensations.

SUPERINTENDENT BYRNES RESIGNS.

He Tells How Gould and Vanderbilt Made a Fortune for Him—Mr. Goff's Farewell.

NEW YORK, December 29.—The Lexow Committee concluded its hearings to-day and adjourned subject to the call of the chairman. The day was full of sensations, and the climax was reached when Superintendent Byrnes announced that he had tendered his resignation from the police force. The announcement came at the conclusion of a series of questions by Mr. Goff as to disagreement between Mr. Byrnes and the Police Board. Mr. Goff asked: "Have there been any occasions in which any of the police commissioners interfered with you regarding your orders to the captains in the election of 1892?"

"There was a serious difference of opinion."

The witness said that President Martin came to a meeting of the captains and made a speech to the men regarding their election duties. "I did not like what he said, as I thought I had explained myself sufficiently. He spoke in regard to the Federal offices."

"If Mr. Martin said you invited him to the meeting, would he say what was true?"

"He would say what was true."

"Can you tell us why the police remained passive in the elections of 1893?"

"I believe something of the kind was brought before the board, but I don't know what was done."

ORDER WITHOUT CLUBS.

"You found you could enforce order without the use of clubs?"

"Yes, sir."

"And policemen can enforce order without the use of clubs?"

"They can, sir."

"Do you say the Police Department at the present time is in good or bad condition?"

"It is in bad condition."

"And can you, as superintendent, effect any change for the better at present?"

"No, sir. If a man was not a strong man as superintendent, his office would be a nonentity."

"And if he is a strong man, he is constantly fighting with the board?"

"That's my case."

The Superintendent then said the Superintendent of Police should have charge of the disciplining of the police.

"Did you knowingly oppose Dr. Parkhurst when he was trying to suppress disorderly houses in the Eleventh Precinct?"

"I never opposed anybody trying to suppress disorderly houses."

Mr. Goff then asked the Superintendent how it was that the five special officers he had sent to the Eleventh Precinct to get evidence against disorderly houses did not report a single house, while the agents of Dr. Parkhurst secured evidence which convicted five keepers of disorderly houses. He asked the Superintendent if that did not show inefficiency on his part.

"Yes, in that case," he replied.

"Until legislative remedies come to the Police Department, its present condition is deplorable?"

"It is, sir."

BYRNES'S RESIGNATION.

Superintendent Byrnes then made his startling statement. "I feel assured," said he, "that the commissioners wanted to get rid of me, and I wanted to retire, but I refrained, from a sense of duty to the citizens of New York. The views of the commissioners do not agree with mine. Whatever the incoming Mayor and other authorities want to do, I will not interfere with them. I have been thirty-two years in the department, and am willing to retire."

The Superintendent then handed Mr. Goff a letter which he had sent to Mayor-elect Strong on December 13, 1894. It ran as follows:

"Dear Sir: I appreciate as fully as any man can the tremendous responsibilities that will come upon you when you assume the duties of Mayor and undertake the reform of the various departments of the city government. I desire not to be an embarrassment in anything you propose to do with the Police Department. On the contrary, I wish to aid you in any way that I can. I assume you are now considering what action you are going to take at the outset of your administration, and what legislation will be required to make such action practicable. I, therefore, now place in your hands my request to be retired from the post of Superintendent, to be used by you or not, at any time after the first of January, as you see fit.

"Let me further say that you may be entirely free to command my services, advice, and information at any time in regard to the affairs of the Police Department, with which I have been so long connected.

"Your obedient servant,

"THOMAS BYRNES."

The reading of the letter caused a sensation in court.

The big Superintendent sat back in his chair smilingly as Mr. Goff read his letter of resignation.

Then there was another long discussion as to the police force, the Superintendent giving it as his opinion that it was necessary to reorganize it. This closed the story of the Superintendent, and the hearing of the Lexow Committee was practically at an end.

BYRNES'S FORTUNE.

Preceding his sensational climax, Mr. Byrnes underwent a searching examination as to how much he is worth and how he acquired his fortune. He admitted that he is now worth in real estate and personal property $350,000, all, excepting a few thousand dollars, acquired in stock speculations conducted by his friends. Jay Gould had made $230,000 for him, and since Jay Gould's death his son George had added $45,000 to Byrnes's wealth. He started from a small beginning, and from his savings and a small inheritance, Vanderbilt had invested $2,000 for Byrnes and returned $6,000.

Byrnes had gained Jay Gould's good will by ridding him of a writer of threatening letters. Gould tendered Byrnes a gift of money, which was declined. Shortly afterwards Gould offered to buy stocks and hold them for Byrnes, and Byrnes gave Gould $10,000 to invest. Thenceforward Byrnes's wealth grew constantly, as long as he did not himself meddle in the business. He said that when he undertook to dabble in stocks upon his own judgment he lost money. He is at present a large holder of shares.

The Goulds, however, were not the only people who had befriended him, but Byrnes declined to name any others.

OPPORTUNITIES.

He said: "I had opportunities as Superintendent of Police for earning the gratitude of men who could give me valuable information on stocks."

"Is it not strange that, where you simply performed your duty as a police official, such remarkable results should follow?"

"No, sir."

Questioned as to Dr. Parkhurst, Byrnes said: "I have nothing but friendly feelings for Dr. Parkhurst and his society, although he has hounded me in every possible way. Dr. Parkhurst has created a public spirit in the city, without which the existing reforms could not have been effected."

"Is it a fact that but for the efforts of Dr. Parkhurst and the committee the corruption would have still existed?"

"I could not have stayed it."

"Had you sufficient power?"

"No, sir."

The Superintendent said he could not detail men without the consent of the commissioners.

McLAUGHLIN AND RYAN.

Inspector McLaughlin was also examined as to his gains. From his admissions, Mr. Goff figured out that McLaughlin is worth $128,000, but McLaughlin disputed the correctness of this conclusion, making the amount $102,000. McLaughlin stated that he had made $40,000 out of a patent which he had purchased jointly with his brother-in-law for less than $2,000, and had made the rest of his money in real-estate speculations.

His wife, also, he said, was a successful business-woman. As to the nature of her business, the Inspector was very reticent, and Mr. Goff intimated broadly that she was engaged in procuring appointments upon the police force, for which she received pay.

Captain Ryan was put through the crucible also, but he seems to be the poorest of all the police captains, and he was not long detained.

Captain Martens did not produce his wife in court, as he had been directed to do, explaining that she was sick.

Mr. Goff did not accept the explanation in good faith, and gave him a raking.

Captain Meakim was called, but he did not appear, and Mr. Goff said: "We tried to subpoena Captain Meakim last night, but failed. He has been accused of being the chief protector of green-goods men in this city. They follow him around from one precinct to another to get his protection. Captain Meakim has also the reputation of being the richest captain on the force. He lives in a $20,000 house. I openly charge him with having policemen, carpenters, and plumbers working at his country-house in Tarrytown, and at the same time drawing their pay from the city. I also state that a wardman of his who was in Bloomingdale suffering from paresis drew his pay every month."

GOFF'S PERORATION.

The proceedings closed with a long address from Mr. Goff. He praised Mr. Moss and Mr. Travers Jerome for the assistance they had given him in the investigation, and concluded by saying: "I will now, before the committee adjourns, ask if there is anybody who wishes to be heard. If there is, let him come forward, and not wait until we have adjourned."

Mr. Goff received a great cheer as he concluded.

Chairman Lexow then remarked that the committee would fittingly thank Mr. Goff and his colleagues when they got to Albany. The Senator made a speech reviewing the entire proceedings, and congratulating the city on the good work that had been accomplished.

Mr. Goff was warmly congratulated at the close of the session, many people gathering around and shaking him by the hand.

Chairman Lexow, in his address, recommended that the Police Board should retire Captain Creedon.

COMSTOCK HEARD FROM.

Anthony Comstock, who was charged by Streep with having received bribes, in an open letter to the committee, which was given to the press to-night, denies the charges, and brands Streep's testimony as false in every particular.

Police-Justice John R. Voorhis yesterday went before Justice Andrews in the Supreme Court and made a sweeping affidavit denying the charges made against him by Creedon and others before the Lexow Committee, of having received money for his action in the promotion or transfer of any police officer while he was a police commissioner.

Justice Voorhis sent the affidavit, together with a long letter, to Chairman Lexow, and requested that the affidavit be included in and incorporated with the testimony and statements made before the committee in regard to the promotion of Sergeant Creedon to a captaincy.

TERRIBLE CHRISTMAS TRAGEDY.

Forty-One Persons Burned to Death and Fifteen Injured.

KLAMATH FALLS, ORE., December 29.—At Silver Lake, Lake county, Oregon, Christmas-eve, while a large party was attending a Christmas-tree, a lamp exploded, causing a fire, in which forty-one persons were burned to death and fifteen injured. The gathering had assembled at a hall above Christman Brothers' store, and consisted of children, who, with their parents and relatives, were having a grand time, and enjoying what Santa Claus had brought them, little dreaming that many of them would never leave the building alive.

The Lake View Examiner says: Some one attempted to get where he could see and hear better by jumping upon a bench in the middle of the hall, and in doing so his head struck a lamp hanging from the ceiling, causing the oil to run out, the fluid immediately catching fire. While trying to take the lamp down, it was tipped so that the oil ran out on the floor, and from that time on the scene was terrible to behold. Some men said: "Shut the door and keep quiet, and it can be put out," while others screamed and yelled. The lamp was finally taken down, but it fell to the floor, where it lay unmolested, as it could not be touched, on account of the intense heat it gave out. The people were compelled to go through flames in order to reach the door, and frantically rushed to their doom. Five of the injured are likely to die.

The building, a two-story structure, including the post-office and the entire stock of goods of Christman Brothers, was consumed. Silver Lake is over a hundred miles from Klamath Falls, and a stage, with the Lake View papers, brought the news to this place.

FLORIDA CROPS DESTROYED.

Oranges Frozen Solid—Vegetables Ruined. Pineapples Gone—Loss, $2,000,000.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., December 29.—Dispatches to the Times-Union indicate that the cold wave has been very destructive to the orange and vegetable crops. No section of the State escaped. Oranges on the trees are frozen solid, and it is said that there is now not a sound box of oranges in the State. Peas, tomatoes, and other vegetables are ruined. Dispatches from the east coast say that the pineapple crop is ruined. It is estimated that there were 2,500,000 boxes of oranges on the trees, and that 2,000,000 of them are a total loss. Young orange groves are reported ruined. Old trees may pull through. The total loss will likely reach $2,000,000. The freeze is more disastrous than the memorable one of 1886. The average temperature early this morning over Florida was about 29 degrees.

PEOPLE FROZEN TO DEATH.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., December 29.—A special to the Times-Union from Lake City, Fla., says: An unknown white man was found by the roadside near town this morning in a dying condition from cold. It is also reported that a negro was frozen to death about ten miles from town.

FIREMEN MEET DEATH.

Two Officers of the New York Force the Victims.

NEW YORK, December 29.—Battalion-Chief James J. Bresnan and Assistant-Foreman John L. Rooney met death early this morning while fighting a fire in Cassiday Sons & Co.'s gas- and electric-fixture works in west Twenty-fourth street.

The fire was on the fifth and sixth floors, and Chief Bresnan, surrounded by men from engine companies Nos. 14, 18, and 19, was forcing his way up the stairway leading to the fourth floor. Without warning the charred beams of the fifth floor gave way under the weight of a heavy piece of machinery, which carried away the stairway. Bresnan and Rooney were both pinned under the machinery as it struck the fourth floor, and both were probably instantly killed.

Half a dozen firemen were also pinned down on the stairway leading from the fourth to fifth floor, but they managed to cut their way out in advance of the flames. Four of them were painfully, but not seriously, burned.

TRAIN-ROBBER MORGANFIELD.

He Is Believed to Have Been Implicated in an Illinois Robbery.

CHICAGO, ILL., December 29.—A special from Cincinnati says: According to information just obtained by the police, it is believed that Charles Morganfield, the Virginia train-robber, was implicated in the hold-up of a train near Cairo, Ill., in November, 1893. Morganfield is now in jail here, awaiting the result of an effort to secure his release on habeas corpus pending requisition litigation.

In the Illinois hold-up the conductor was killed, the man who fired the shot was seen, and from the published description of the murderer, the people in that section believe that Morganfield is the man.

Chief-of-Police Deitsch is after more information, and a detective will be called here to look at Morganfield.

Stamp Albums Must Go.

WASHINGTON, December 29.—Solicitor Reeve, of the Treasury Department, in regard to the legality of private parties printing fac-similes of United States stamps in albums, has given the opinion that the printing of stamp-albums must be stopped, and the plates seized and destroyed, but recommends that dealers now having them be allowed to dispose of the stock on hand. The case, however, is not likely to stop here, but will eventually find its way into the courts.

Fine Residence Destroyed.

MOBILE, ALA., December 29.—Albon Place, on the Bay shell-road, one of the finest mansions in the South, was destroyed by fire last night. Loss, $30,000; insurance, $3,000.

THE DIXIE HUMMER.

From Chicago to Atlanta in Sixteen Hours and a Half.

FASTEST RUN IN SOUTHERN HISTORY.

The Train a Pioneer Sent Out by the "Herald" Newspaper, of the Northwestern Metropolis.

CHICAGO, ILL., December 29.—The "Dixie Hummer," a special fast train which was arranged for by the Chicago Herald, left this city at 2 o'clock this morning bound for Atlanta, Ga., 733 miles distant. It is scheduled to arrive at 5:30 the same evening, and in order to win this race against time the wheels will have to go around at the rate of nearly sixty miles an hour. The route will be via the Chicago and Eastern Illinois, Evansville and Terra Haute, Louisville and Nashville, Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis, and Western and Atlantic railroads.

If the train makes the time in 15 hours and 30 minutes, as scheduled, it will be the fastest run ever made in the South. Atlanta and Chicago, under the present system of railroad connections, are 27 hours apart, and the prime object to be illustrated in running this train is the feasibility of improving the railway-mail service to the southeast.

THE SOUTH MOVING.

BALTIMORE, December 29.—The movement inaugurated by Mr. R. D. Edmonds, editor of the Manufacturer's Record, to ship a train-load of corn and meat from the South to the farmers of Nebraska, who are suffering so much by reason of their short crop, has awakened great interest throughout the South, and is being vigorously taken hold of. At the request of Mr. Edmonds, ex-Governor W. J. Northen, of Georgia, has agreed to take up the matter and head the matter, with a view to concentrating at Atlanta all the contributions that are offered, and making up there the full train for shipment west. Governor Northen telegraphs Mr. Edmonds that he will take active charge of the work and do his best.

Mr. W. L. Glessner, Commissioner of Immigration, Macon, Ga., wires his hearty sympathy with the movement, and offers his aid in securing contributions of corn and provisions.

Senator Patrick Walsh has taken hold of the matter actively in Augusta, and has called upon the Business League, of that city, to unite in the work.

GEORGIA RESPONDS FIRST.

MACON, GA., December 29.—Georgia is the first State to respond to the call for help for the Nebraska sufferers. The Georgia Southern and Florida railroad, running between Macon and Palatka, Fla., with headquarters in this city, to-day wired R. H. Edmonds, of the Manufacturers' Record, Baltimore, that it would transport free of charge shipments for the sufferers. A response was received as follows: "Yours is the first contribution. Will advise as to shipments later."

Both the Georgia Southern and the Macon and Northern railroads are sending out circulars to stations on their lines, asking for contributions, and pledging the roads to haul them free of all charges. The Georgia Southern and Florida road will alone send a carload of provisions.

Georgia's barns are full to overflowing, and the people have enough to spare for their suffering brethren in the West.

Y. M. C. A. STATE CONVENTION.

Steps to Form a Fruit-Growers' Association—A Coming Wedding—Skating.

STAUNTON, VA., December 29.—(Special.)—Plans are being perfected for the entertainment of the Young Men's Christian Association, which will have its State convention in this city on February 6th to the 10th. In Virginia there are fifty-three local associations, and Secretary H. O. Williams regards the Young Men's Christian Association work in the State as in fine condition.

The fruit-growers of Middle River District are taking steps to form a fruit-growers' association for mutual benefit and protection, and several of the prominent growers in this section of Augusta have invited through the press a meeting of those engaged in the production of fruits and berries to meet at New Hope on January 5th to discuss matters pertinent to such a club and other matters of interest to fruit-growers.

Announcement is made of the approaching marriage of Miss Anna Lee Patterson, the pretty daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Patterson, of West End, to Mr. John Stott, of this city. The ceremony will be solemnized at the First Presbyterian church on Wednesday, January 9, 1895, at 9:30 A. M.

What with sleighing-, skating-, dancing-, and dinner-parties the young people have had a gala week of it.

Mr. George H. Bell led a handsome german at Crowles' Hall last night, and during the week the Whist Club was entertained by Mrs. William R. Tyree.

Misses Peak, Eliza Braxton, Anne and Susie Cochran, and Misses Ann and Clemence Cooke have given enjoyable entertainments to their friends.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND TROUBLES.

Finance and Legislation—More Assignments—Governmental Whitewashing.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., December 29.—The government proposal to guarantee the notes of the Union and Commercial banks was passed in the assembly last night by a strict party vote, after a strong fight. A determined attempt is being made in the legislative council to defeat the measure on its second reading to-night. It is reported that the government will be satisfied to have it rejected and will have alternate proposals ready.

Thorburn and Torsier, general merchants, one of the largest fishing firms in Newfoundland, closed their doors to-day. The amount of their liabilities is unknown at present, but will probably be $750,000. The assets will probably be sufficient to cover the greater portion of the indebtedness. It is expected that other assignments will be made on Monday.

The government has introduced a bill in the assembly whitewashing the members convicted of corrupt practices in the elections. Petitions for a royal commission of investigation are being started.

SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA R. R.

Authorization for Steamship Lines and for Consolidation.

NEW YORK, December 29.—At a meeting of the directors of the South Carolina and Georgia Railroad Company to-day Asbury Hill, of Augusta, was elected a director to fill a vacancy.

The statement for the six months ended December 31, 1894, partly estimated, shows: Gross earnings, $613,452.49; net earnings, $214,044.69; interest and taxes, $156,250; surplus, $57,794.69.

By a recent act of the Legislature the company is authorized to purchase, lease, own, and operate lines of steamships between Charleston and New York, and between Charleston and foreign ports, and is also authorized to lease or purchase wharves, and erect elevators and cotton presses, and lease or consolidae with any railroad in South Carolina or adjacent States.

LYNCHBURG'S B. B. MANAGER.

William A. Smith, of Knoxville, Will Direct the Hill-Climbers Next Season.

LYNCHBURG, VA., December 29.—(Special.)—The Lynchburg Base-Ball Association has engaged Mr. William A. Smith, of Knoxville, Tenn., as manager for the next season. Mr. Smith has been a professional player for four years, and has a splendid record as a base-ballist. He was for two years with Ohio and Wisconsin teams, and lately with New Orleans and Memphis clubs in the Southern League. Of all the applicants for the position he is regarded as the best, and the association considers itself fortunate in securing his services. He was in the city to-day when the contract was closed, and returned home this afternoon. With the exception of McKenna, who has been engaged, the new manager will have the selection of all the players, and promises a winning team.

The Last of a Great Fortune.

(Wilmington Star.)

The whirligig of time brings some of us to some strange landings. Everybody knows how rich a man W. T. Blackwell, of Durham—"Buck" Blackwell—used to be. He broke some years ago. Saturday he was sold out—lock, stock, and barrel. The last of his belongings went. In the Durham Sun of Friday he had a communication, and these are some of the things he said:

I helped to lay off the first streets and build them before the town had the money to do it. I, for a long time, built more houses than all the rest of the people of the town put together. I was one of the first builders of the churches we now have. I was the one that started the first tobacco market in the State. I built nearly all of the warehouses for the sale of leaf tobacco that are here now, and those that have been lost by fire. * * * I helped everybody that moved to Durham that was worthy and needed help, and up to five years ago I was one of the first to take hold of every enterprise that was started that would benefit Durham or her people. * * * I have worked the above number of years in common for the town of Durham and her people, and next Saturday the last of my property is to be sold and divided out among the good people I have imported from all over this broad land to this great city.

I want to invite one and all to attend this sale, and I hope you will come with as good grace and with as much earnestness as you did when I begged you to come and settle among us and live with us and help build up the city. * * * While it makes no difference to me whether you come or not, all the twenty-four years' work and all the money I have is here in improvements to be enjoyed by some one, and has passed out of my hands forever, and I am left without a dollar, no financial standing, and no friends to brag of, and those I have, if any, have no financial standing to aid me as I have aided hundreds in the twenty years past, and if you ever expect to get any aid out of me or anything that I have done in the way of business and working for and assisting, come next Saturday to the sale and help yourself, for everything that I possess is up and you can never expect any more help or aid from your old friend. This is a complete round-up, and I am at the end of my row and can't go one way or another.

So this is the end of it—the end of the row for a man who once "counted his money by legions, as men do devils." There is something inexpressibly touching about it. And yet it is a manly letter—there is not a whine in it.

NORTH CAROLINA AND VIRGINIA.

Some Pleasant Reflections from the Pen of Rev. Dr. Battle.

Under the caption "In Old Virginia," the Biblical Recorder publishes quite an interesting letter from the pen of Rev. Dr. H. M. Battle, of Petersburg, which was written some two weeks or more ago. Among other things Dr. Battle says:

When, recently, a great representative body of the Baptists of the Old Dominion was in session, I gazed upon the vast throng of wonderfully-gifted and useful men, and propounded to myself the question: Whence came they? The question, as by the magic of a magician's spell, summoned before the mind's eye a majestic procession of States—far-off Pennsylvania, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama—and as they swept past (while the eloquent F. B. Beale was speaking) I marked that each State turned a searching glance full of pride and tenderness upon the audience. North Carolina, in her regal loveliness, wore no blush! Let me tell you, there is no more Christ-like spirit nor more faithful minister of the Word in all Virginia than W. L. Wright; there is no more zealous son of genius than L. G. Broughton; there is no more progressive mind nor braver heart than J. F. Love; there is no more consecrated and successful laborer in the vineyard than W. F. Watson; there is no nobler friend and brother than Editor Speight—and if to the number my pen has made too small be added those sons of sanctified thunder, J. S. Dill and J. J. Hall, the expression of tender pride I fancied on North Carolina's countenance is abundantly justified. She greets her noble sister, Virginia (mother of presidents and Baptist preachers) and whispers: "My children and your children; my God and your God!"

Again, it seems to me that Richmond belongs, in a peculiar and very precious sense, to North Carolina and to the entire South. It has been well said: "Richmond is distinguished as the historic metropolis of the South, and as the necropolis of many of its noblest heroes." Upon this subject some of us will not permit our hearts to coin their emotions into words before a Richmond audience, for fear our listeners might serenely accept whatever is said as an attempt to gild refined gold or add perfume to the violet—(their gold and their violet). But, beyond doubt, great is Richmond on the James! Great in her splendid citizenship; great in her gems of architecture and facilities for commerce; great as a centre of religious enterprise, penetrating the whole world; great as the select farm of learning. Here southern youth may turn from printed page to history in river and soil, poetry in stone, philosophy in example, and inspiration in memories that cannot die! The other day it was my privilege to be a guest at the hospitable board of the Woman's College of Richmond, which is the splendid successor to the Richmond Female Institute. Dr. James Nelson, as president of the institution, is eminently fitted for his high and responsible position. And about him he has wisely gathered a corps of instructors of unsurpassed excellence in all the departments of a thoroughly equipped college. No brighter, happier company of school-girls ever sat down to do ample justice to a bountiful repast than that I saw at the Woman's College. It was really delightful to see with what consummate grace and infinite relish they came from astronomy, with quadrants and telescopes, to gastronomy, with knives and forks. The President said: "There has not been a single case of fatal sickness in the boarding department of this institution during all the years." Yet the standard of scholarship is now exceedingly high, and two, at least, of the professors of Richmond College are regularly-engaged instructors in the Woman's College.

One of the most interesting gatherings I have attended was the recent convention of B. Y. P. unions at Richmond. I was especially pleased by the sentiment of unwavering loyalty to the local church which pervaded the entire meeting. The inviolable dignity and authority of the New Testament Church was reiterated again and again—and the entire movement claimed to be but a new phase of its Heaven-ordained activities. The convention seemed to me to be a success, and I am among those who believe that this mighty and far-reaching ground-swell of young religious enthusiasm can be so directed as to be made one of the most potent and blessed agencies of the age. Oh, for zeal and wisdom!

The president of Richmond College—who will it be? Good timber in sight, and willing to be shaped into form by a single stroke of the trustees. When that stroke comes (and it is impending) somebody is going to feel hurt, and somebody is going to feel—not hurt. May the grand old college go on her way prospering and rejoicing!

Traffic War in Florida.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., December 29.—The appointment of B. W. Wrenn as passenger traffic manager of the Plant system is considered in this city to mean that an aggressive fight for passenger business between the Plant system and the Florida Central and Peninsular road